

In the Drawings

Kindly replace Fig. 3 now of record with Fig. 3 attached herewith.

Remarks

The Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's helpful suggestions concerning the Drawings. The Applicant has added a clamping ring 31 to Fig. 3 in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestion. The Drawing, as amended, shows the clamping ring 31 broken into halves so that it can easily be seen how the separate halves engage the respective flanges 8 and 30. Also, the Specification has been amended on page 6 at line 26 to account for the newly labeled clamping ring 31. Confirmation of acceptance of the change to the Drawing is respectfully requested.

The Applicant has also amended page 1 at line 1 to correct the spelling of "improvements." The Applicant notes that the Applicant's copy of page 1 already contains the correct spelling. However, the request for the amendment is being made to avoid abandonment.

The Applicant acknowledges the rejection of Claims 1 – 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §102. Those claims have been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that Claim 24 would be allowable if rewritten to independent form. Claim 24 has been cancelled and new Claim 25 has been added that contains the subject matter of allowed Claim 24 and Claims 1 and 5, from which it depends. Allowance of Claim 25 is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that the entire Application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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